

their lives in this investigation. Irving, Texas Officer Aubrey Hawkins and Colorado State Trooper Jason Manspeaker both died in the line of duty. Officer Hawkins was brutally shot 11 times and killed by one of the fugitives while responding to a robbery of a sporting goods store in Irving Texas on December 24th. Colorado State Trooper Jason Manspeaker was killed when he crashed his Jeep Cherokee Squad car into a heavy equipment trailer on U.S. Highway 6 in Colorado. The crash occurred while chasing a vehicle suspected of harboring the last two fugitives on January 23rd. Both Officer Hawkins and State Trooper Manspeaker paid the ultimate price for our freedom. My wife Joan and I offer all our compassion, our sympathy and our prayers to the families of both victims.●

LORETTA SYMMS

● Mr. REID. Mr. President, I come to the Senate floor today to express my regret that Loretta Symms will soon retire as Deputy Sergeant at Arms. I would also like to congratulate her on a long and distinguished career.

During her 22 years of service on Capitol Hill, Loretta gained the respect of Senators and Congressmen from both sides of the aisle. Her creativity and dedication to improving the inner-workings of the Senate have made her an invaluable asset to the institution and she will be dearly missed by all.

Loretta started her career on Capitol Hill in 1978 working for then-Congressman Steve Symms as executive assistant and office manager. In 1981, after Congressman Symms was elected to the Senate, Loretta became his executive secretary and office manager. In 1987, Senator Dole appointed Loretta as the Republican representative to the Sergeant at Arms.

As Director of the Capitol Facilities Department, she reinvented the Facilities Department providing career ladders, formal position descriptions, instituted reading programs, basic computer classes for employees, and training programs. Working closely with the Secretary of the Senate's office, Loretta has been actively involved in the oversight and management of the Senate Page Program. For example, Loretta participated in the renovation and opening of Webster Hall, the Senate Page dormitory, and the Senate Page School.

During her tenure as Deputy Sergeant at Arms, Loretta worked closely with the Assistant Secretary of the Senate to create the Joint Office of Education and Training which provides a wide variety of professional seminars and training for the staff of Senate Offices and Committees. As every Senator can attest, this office has become an invaluable resource. In 1996, Senator LOTT named Loretta Deputy Sergeant

at Arms, the post in which she still serves. As Deputy, Loretta has managed the day to day operations of more than 770 employees.

Loretta is married to former Senator Steve Symms. They have 7 children and 10 grandchildren. Her retirement will allow her to fulfill her dreams of traveling and spending more time with her grandchildren. Loretta's impact on the institution of the Senate is greatly appreciated and will be remembered for a long time to come. But most importantly to this Senator is the many acts of kindness in the most professional manner that Loretta has extended to me. For her many acts I will always be grateful.●

TRIBUTE TO BEN AUGELLO

● Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire. Mr. President, I rise today to honor Ben Augello of Weare, New Hampshire, an elementary school principal whose devotion to education serves as an inspiration for his colleagues and students alike. Recently named Elementary Principal of the Year by the New Hampshire Association of School Principals, Ben is known for his incomparable listening skills.

Ben's lifelong dream since childhood to become a teacher began in New York where he taught science to middle school students. He had a special talent for making every student feel valued and special.

Ben has been the principal of the Center Woods Elementary School in Weare, New Hampshire, since 1991. He oversaw the construction of the school and has also spearheaded development of the school's inclusionary model. Mr. Augello is an enthusiastic administrator who exudes a warmth and openness that permeates the school.

Married for thirty-seven years, Ben and his wife Bunny have two children: Christine, a resident of Nashua, and Peter, who resides in Florida. Ben's hobbies include cooking and traveling throughout the United States and Europe.

Ben Augello is a tribute to his community and profession. It is an honor and a privilege to represent him in the United States Senate.●

TRIBUTE TO DEBBIE JANS

● Mr. CLELAND. Mr. President, when I first came back to Washington, DC as a Senator-elect in December of 1996 for freshman orientation, one of the first people I met was a young lady who I was told I had to get to know if I was to be able to successfully get around the august halls of the Senate. She was then the Director of the Congressional Special Services Office that provided assistance to Capitol visitors and staff with disabilities. What I did not know at the time, but soon learned, was that she had been working for years to help

move both Houses of Congress toward compliance with the landmark Americans with Disabilities Act. What I also didn't know at first, but learned almost immediately was that this young lady, Deborah Kerrigan Jans—known to all as Debbie—once worked for that great Senator Hubert Humphrey and that in addition to Minnesota ties she shared with Senator Humphrey a great fondness for the spoken word! In spite of that, or perhaps because of it, I soon found that Debbie had made herself indispensable to the conduct of my activities as a United States Senator and I quickly signed her on to my staff to coordinate my scheduling and advance work in the Senate. Part of her role was described very well in an August 1999 article in Esquire magazine:

He (Cleland) has one staffer, Deborah Jans, who advances his schedule to make sure he can get there. She is a dervish, racing in and out of men's rooms to make sure the doors on the stalls open out and not in, looking everywhere for ramps and elevators, measuring doorways for the chair. . . . So she goes, and she measures, and she checks—a whirlwind advancing a kind of rolling thunder.

Today, Debbie is retiring after 25 years of service to the Senate and to Congress. Prior to her excellent work for me, Debbie served as Director of the Congressional Special Services Office, Manager of the Senate Special Services Office, and Tour Guide with the U.S. Capitol Guide Service. These positions allowed her to share her love of the Capitol with visitors, providing a political, historical and architectural orientation to our magnificent institution. As I previously mentioned, in the latter part of this service, her role was extended to providing support and services to Capitol visitors and staff with disabilities. The innovative programs that she managed included special tours for individuals with disabilities, sign language interpreting, wheelchair loans, development of Braille materials, as well as classes and seminars for Congressional staff on disability issues.

Debbie and her husband Ron, who is a wonderful fellow himself and has had the opportunity to develop tremendous listening skills during his years with Debbie, are preparing to return to the Land of 10,000 Lakes. Washington's loss is Minnesota's gain. We shall miss Debbie here on Capitol Hill. The place will never be the same.●

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 11:56 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Niland, one of its reading clerks, announced that pursuant to the provisions of 22 U.S.C. 1928a, the Speaker appoints the following Members of the House of Representatives to the United States Group of the North Atlantic Assembly: Mr. BEREUTER, Mr. REGULA, Mrs. ROUKEMA, Mr. HEFLEY, Mr.